

22 July 1974

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

THE DCI/USIB ROLE IN REQUIREMENTS DEFINITION

1. A major point that should be preserved in any forward planning for the NRP is the importance of having an authoritative unambiguous source of requirements. The delineation of intelligence needs and the relative priority among requirements should be determined under the aegis of the DCI -- as the government's chief intelligence officer -- but in close collaboration with the NRO operational elements. The NRO, itself, should not be placed in a position of defining its own requirements or of measuring and monitoring its own performance against specified requirements. Further, it should not be placed in the position of having to decide the substantive intelligence merit of requests for collection.

2. In the imagery field requirements at both the national and tactical level are channeled through COMIREX (acting for the USIB) directly to the NRO which then operates the system against those requirements. All tasking is handled through a single unambiguous channel.

a. With today's systems, pre-mission guidance is coordinated and consolidated extensively to make optimum use of the resources available. This guidance includes consideration of all applicable consumers, national, departmental, tactical, level, and takes into account viewpoints ranging from the policy level to the substantive analyst and photo interpreter. The entire process is complex, computerized, and configured specifically to support the unique needs of the system operator.

b. Day-to-day "fine tuning" of the requirements and operations is handled through close consultation and interaction between COMIREX and NRO operational elements.

3. [REDACTED]

national and tactical level. Efficient utilization of the satellite assets will, again, hinge on the coordination and consolidation of requirements at all

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levels. In many, if not most, cases the requirements are similar or can be handled without interference. It will be necessary to have well defined procedures for determining priorities and channels for servicing important time-sensitive requirements quickly and without interference, and of coordinating the allocation of collection system capacity against the full range of requirements on a rational and equitable basis.

4. The DCI and the USIB should continue to be the ultimate intelligence authorities for expressing and prioritizing the intelligence requirements (needs) against which NRO resources are allocated.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

[REDACTED]

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John:

Attached is a quickie on requirements.
I am not sure whether this is useful. Use your
judgment in relation to the other materials.

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[REDACTED]

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(DATE)

FORM NO. 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101
1 AUG 54 WHICH MAY BE USED.

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